

Fresh Products Branch Directive

FPB-610 REPORTING SPIDERS IN CONTAINERS OF FRUITS OR
6/27/96 VEGETABLES

I. PURPOSE This directive is to set policy and provide instructions for reporting presence or absence of spiders in containers of fruits or vegetables.

II. INSTRUCTIONS If requested to certify the presence or absence of Black Widow Spiders or any other spider in containers of fruits or vegetables, this will be allowable as follows:

1. Reference to presence or absence of spiders will only be made upon specific request of the applicant.

2. At the specific request of the applicant, inspections may be made solely to determine presence or absence of spiders.

3. The term "Black Widow" shall not be used. Refer to them only as "spiders".

4. When spiders are noted during the course of an inspection, report under "REMARKS" in general terms the approximate number of samples with spiders present, and report the range only for the number of spiders noted in individual samples; no averages or total numbers. "Not affecting grade and shown at applicants request" shall be included in the statement.

EXAMPLE: In many samples examined, from 1 to 5 spiders noted, not affecting grade and reported at applicant's request."

5. When requested to show the presence or absence of spiders and no spiders are found, the following statement shall be made in "REMARKS."

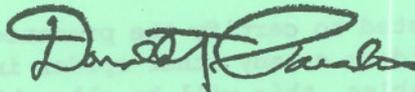
Distribution: HQ, FM, CM, and FS

Originating Office: Field Operations Section

File Maintenance Instructions: Remove FPB Directive 610, dated 12/24/92 from Directive Binder and file this in its place.

"In sample packages examined, no spiders noted during inspection, reported at applicant's request."

NOTE: As a reminder, any unusual "REMARKS" statements such as the presence or absence of additives or any other statements unrelated to our regular certification procedures must be cleared through the Washington office on a case-by-case basis. This policy applies to all products.



Donald T. Paradis
Acting Branch Chief